

Rogue River Program Volunteer Position Description

Job Title: Rogue River Ranch Caretaker

Job Location: This volunteer position is located in the Grants Pass Resource Area, Medford District, Bureau of Land Management. The Rogue River Ranch is located within the boundaries of the Wild Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River corridor, approximately 53 Miles below Grants Pass. By road from Glendale, Oregon, it is west about 45 miles.

Site Description: The Rogue River Ranch is a remote and beautiful historic ranch located just on the edge of the Wild Rogue Wilderness and within the boundaries of the Wild Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River corridor. The ranch is located within the rugged canyon of the Rogue River nestled at the base of mountains in the Pacific Northwest. It is approximately 53 river miles below the city of Grants Pass. By road from Glendale it is west about 45 miles. It is managed by the Grants Pass Resource Area of the Medford District BLM.

Benefits: You will have the opportunity to live and work at the beautiful Rogue River Ranch through spring and into fall. Living quarters (house) and utilities are provided by the BLM and a daily/person subsistence rate of \$25 is provided to help offset volunteer expenses. You will meet visitors from all over the world and perhaps even make new friends. Visitors may include white water rafters, hikers, campers, backpackers, and fishermen. You will get the opportunity to float the Wild and Scenic Rogue River while becoming informed about the history and recreation rich area you may call home for the summer. The Ranch location is remote and there are times when you will experience the feeling of isolation and solitude especially during the months of April, May, late September and October. While there may be hundreds of visitors in the peak of the season, fewer visitors stop during the shoulder seasons. Some people enjoy these slower times but thought needs to go into your commitment at wanting to be Volunteer Caretakers for the Ranch.

Position Description: Volunteers will work as caretakers and will be representative of the Bureau of Land Management. Duties for general upkeep of the ranch grounds and buildings are general in nature. They include but aren't limited to:

1. Mowing and trimming the lawn and fields as needed. This is accomplished by riding lawnmowers, self propelled walk behind mowers, weed eaters and grass cutting attachments to a farm tractor.
2. Managing a clock controlled irrigation system which includes 10 sprinkler zones and the ability to do minor maintenance and repairs to this system as needed.
3. Manually watering the Ranch grounds. Using water hoses with attached sprinklers manually moved as needed. Hand watering of flower beds and other areas as needed.
4. Planting and maintaining the vegetable garden for public display and personal consumption. This garden helps to offset your cost of living while providing visitors a means of interaction with you, the caretakers.
5. Daily monitoring of a small public drinking water system. This includes simple water quality testing and record keeping.

6. Cleaning and restocking with toilet paper, to two “river toilets” and one vault toilet located on the Ranch grounds.
7. Cleaning the different buildings at the Ranch which includes sweeping and mopping as needed. The main House will need to be swept and mopped daily during the two or three busiest months.
8. General monitoring of Tucker Flat Campground. This is mainly just keeping an eye on conditions and use of the recreation site.
9. Public Contact including assisting with emergencies. Being Volunteer Caretakers at the Rogue River Ranch means you are representing the Bureau of Land Management. You might be the only BLM representatives some visitors meet.

Qualifications: Volunteers need to have the necessary skills and abilities to accomplish the required duties as caretakers of the Rogue River Ranch. The skills required include the ability to safely use hand tools, power tools, riding and push lawn mowers, farm tractors and other related equipment. There will be moderate lifting involved. They must be able to work independently of direct supervision. Volunteers need to have good public contact skills, have a valid drivers license, and be able to self motivate to accomplish tasks. Volunteers are required to undergo a thorough background check and will be accepted upon successful completion. Due to the remoteness and quantity of work required for this job, couples are strongly encouraged to apply.

Required training: Safety is of primary concern. All volunteers are subject BLM rules regulations and guidelines involving safety. Volunteers will be required to attend several classes which are provided. The classes provided are:

1. First Aid/ CPR. This is a one day course which will include first responder/ emergency response training.
2. Instruction on the use of power equipment, machinery, communication systems and the complex electrical system at the Ranch.

How to apply: To apply for this position, please send the provided volunteer application form along with a cover letter and resume. Please include at least 4 work references including phone numbers. Applications can be emailed to the address above or mailed to Cheryl Stanley 3040 Biddle Rd. Medford, 97504. Applications must be received by February, 29 2008.

Phone use: The phone system at the Ranch is toll free to the Grants Pass calling area. All other calls are long distance. Volunteers will need to use their personal calling cards for all their personal long distance phone calls.

Supervision: A primary supervisor will be designated that is responsible for coordinating the volunteer positions including their day to day guidance. In the absence of the primary supervisor, arrangements will be made designating an interim supervisor. The entire River Program Staff will be available for input and assistance.

Breach of agreement: If stipulations within this agreement are not complied with upon review, termination may occur.